

AMENDMENT TO CLAIMS

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1. (Currently Amended) A fishing vessel cable winch system for lowering nets into the water and raising nets from the water comprising:

a drum, the drum being means for winding and unwinding at least one cable, said at least one cable being adapted for use on a fishing trawler and is further sized to handle a load of at least 2000 lbs in tension;

means for continuously rotating the drum for level winding and unwinding said at least one cable;

a cable guide, the cable guide including two parallel elongate members wherein the elongate members are spaced-apart to allow for the least one cable to freely travel along at least a portion of a length of said elongate members in between said elongate members and for guiding the winding and unwinding of said at least one cable on the drum;

the cable guide being pivotally attached to means for oscillating said cable guide so as to cyclically guide the at least one cable for evenly distributed winding and unwinding of the at least one cable along one end of the drum to an opposite end of the drum, said means for oscillating said cable guide being full power driven pneumatically or hydraulically; and

remote oscillation operating means in mechanical communication with the means for oscillating said cable guide, said remote oscillation operating means being operably independent of the means for rotating the drum, said remote oscillation operating means extending to a side of the one of the ends of the drum so as to be in a non-interfering relationship with the oscillation of the cable guide, and said remote oscillation operating means further having handle means in the general form of a wheel for remote manual operation of said remote oscillation operating means, said handle means being located on the side of the one of the ends of the drum and outside an envelope of the cable oscillation movements of the cable guide,

~~wherein such that a winch operator manually operating the remote operating handle means is not in front or behind a direction of travel of the cable and thereby can not be entrapped by the at least one cable and can not be at risk of bodily harm due to the at least one cable breaking due to a failure while in tension during operation of the remote operating handle means in the at least one cable passing through the cable guide for winding on the drum or unwinding from the drum,~~

wherein the remote oscillation operating means includes a shaft in mechanical communication on one end of said shaft with said means for oscillating said cable guide, said shaft being aligned in a generally parallel relationship to an axis of rotation of the drum, and said handle means being attached on an opposite end of the shaft.

2.-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1 ~~2~~, wherein the shaft is attached to a universal joint fitting, which in turn is in mechanical communication with the means for oscillating said cable guide.

6. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the cable guide further comprises a removable cable travel securement means at an opposite end of the cable guide pivot attachment to the means for oscillating said cable guide, said removable cable travel securement means being means for preventing the at least one cable from exiting outside the space between the parallel elongate members.

7. (Original) The system according to claim 6, wherein the cable guide parallel elongate members each comprise an inner elongate member and an outer concentric freely rotatable elongate member.

8. (Original) The system according to claim 7, wherein the outer freely rotatable elongate member is made from materials selected from the group consisting of polymer composites, metals and combinations thereof.